BIO 101® Systems

APPLICATION MANUAL

PhoenIX™ Maxiprep Kit

Ion exchange purification of ≤ 500 µg plasmid DNA from 100 – 500 ml of E. coli cells

Revision # 2075-300-4A01

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Application Manual

Revision # 2075-300-4A01

Catalog # 2075-300

25 high-copy preps

12 low-copy preps

Storage:

Unopened box should be stored at ambient temperature (15-30ºC).

Once RNase A has been added to Cell Resuspension Buffer, store at 4ºC and use within 6 months.

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1. Introduction

PhoenIX™ plasmid purification systems from Qbiogene rely on ion-exchange chromatography through a unique, patented solid-phase column. Precisely balanced pH values and salt concentrations permit optimal purification of highly clean plasmid DNA from the unique ion-exchange resin. Unlike resins found in other ion-exchange kits, PhoenIX™ columns are distinct: First, the smaller pore size of the resin particles increases the surface area available for binding. Second, the spacer molecule linking the positively charged amino group to the resin particles is longer than in other resins, allowing a better degree of separation between different biomolecules during the binding and washing process.

The PhoenIX™ Midiprep Kit and PhoenIX™ Maxiprep Kit rely on centrifugation to clear the bacterial lysate, and on gravity to pull liquids through the column material. The PhoenIX™ Gigaprep Kit is driven by vacuum and offers lysate clearing via a filtration cartridge.

Plasmid DNA purified with PhoenIX™ columns can be used immediately in a wide variety of downstream applications including automated fluorescent sequencing, enzymatic amplification, labeling, transcription, cloning and other enzymatic manipulations. Additionally, the levels of endotoxin that remain after purification are so low that successful transfection will occur with even sensitive cell lines.

Two protocols are included in this instruction manual. The “high copy” protocol allows isolation of plasmid DNA from bacterial cultures of 100 ml to 500 ml. The “low copy” protocol allows isolation of plasmid DNA from bacterial cultures of 201 ml to 500 ml. In either protocol, plasmid DNA is ready to precipitate in just over an hour.

2. Kit Components and User Supplied Materials

2.1 PhoenIX™ Maxiprep Kit Components

Description	Quantity
RNase A (red cap)	33 mg
Cell Resuspension Buffer (yellow cap label)	260 ml
Lysis Buffer (blue cap label)	260 ml
Neutralization Buffer (green cap label)	260 ml
PhoenIX™ Maxi Columns	25 each
Disposable Maxi Column Rack	1 each
Equilibration Buffer (gray cap label)	780 ml
Column Wash Buffer (orange cap label)	775 ml
Elution Buffer (pink cap label)	400 ml
User Manual	1 each
MSDS	1 each
Certificate of Analysis	1 each

2.2 User Supplied Materials

Liquid collection container that can hold >60 ml
Centrifuge tubes that can hold > 30 ml of liquid and can withstand 12,000 x g (for "high copy" protocol)
Centrifuge tubes that can hold > 60 ml of liquid and can withstand 12,000 x g (for "low copy" protocol)
Isopropanol
70% ethanol

3. Safety Precautions

Several components contain compounds that may cause irritation or burning when in contact with human tissue or during inhalation. Wear personal protective equipment to prevent skin contact (e.g. gloves, lab coat, and eye protection) and prevent inhalation of reagent vapors and consumption of liquid during use. Consult the enclosed Material Safety Data Sheet for additional details.

4. Things to Know before Using the PhoenIX™ Maxiprep Kit

4.1 Read Protocol Thoroughly before Use

For optimal yield and purity of plasmid DNA, it is critical to closely follow the protocol as directed. Although the process of bacterial cell growth and lysis may be able to withstand many short-cuts, each time a step is not performed optimally the risk of an unacceptable result increases.

4.2 High Copy vs. Low Copy Plasmids

High copy plasmids (3 – 5 µg DNA/ml LB Medium) should be grown in a culture volume of 100 – 200 ml
Low copy plasmids (0.2 – 1 µg DNA/ml LB Medium) should be grown in a culture volume of 201 – 500 ml.

4.3 Growth of Bacterial Cells

Inoculate 5 ml of selective medium with a single colony from a freshly streaked selective agar plate. Incubate at least 8 hours at 37°C with vigorous shaking (~300 rpm).

Dilute the starter culture 1:500 to 1:1000. (For example, add 200 µl of a high-copy plasmid starter culture to 100 ml of fresh selective media). Grow *E. coli* cells at 37°C overnight with vigorous shaking to a density between 1 – 5 x 10^9 cells per ml of medium (1 – 1.5 OD_{600} units/ml).

4.4 Prepare Cell Resuspension Buffer by adding RNase A

To resuspend lyophilized RNase A (red cap), add 1.0 ml of Cell Resuspension Buffer (yellow cap label) and vortex. Remove the entire volume of resuspended RNase A and add it to the bottle of Cell Resuspension Buffer. Mix well and check the "Contains RNase A" box on the label. Prepared Cell Resuspension Buffer should be stored at 4°C and used within 6 months.

Qbiogene strongly recommends preparing the entire volume of Cell Resuspension Buffer at once. However, if it is certain that all of the prepared Cell Resuspension Buffer will not be used within 6 months, a partial batch can be prepared instead. Resuspend the RNase A as described above and add the appropriate amount to a smaller volume of Cell Resuspension Buffer. For example, instead of adding 1 ml of resuspended RNase A to 259 ml of buffer, add 0.5 ml of resuspended RNase A to 129.5 ml of buffer. The prepared Cell Resuspension Buffer should be stored at 4°C as directed above. The remaining volume of resuspended RNase A solution can be stored at -20°C for up to 2 years.

4.5 Precipitate Material in Lysis Buffer

If the PhoenIX™ Maxiprep Kit was shipped or stored at a low temperature, a harmless precipitate may form in the Lysis Buffer (blue cap label). If a precipitate is seen, incubate the bottle in a 37°C water bath for several minutes and mix to bring the precipitate back into solution.

4.6 Loading of PhoenIX™ Maxi Columns

Do not overload the PhoenIX™ Maxi Columns with excess bacterial culture. Up to 500 ml of bacterial culture can be used as long as the "low copy" protocol is followed. If purification of other quantities of plasmid is desired, PhoenIX™ plasmid purification kits are available in Midiprep and Gigaprep scales. See the Related Products section for more information.

4.7 Assembly of Disposable Maxi Column Rack

The purchase of a separate column rack is not necessary with the PhoenIX™ Maxiprep Kit. Qbiogene provides a convenient and inexpensive way to support the PhoenIX™ Maxi Columns through the use of the cardboard Disposable Maxi Column Rack. Refer to Figure 1. First, fold the rack along the lines as shown. Starting with Tab A, insert each tab into its corresponding slot as shown. Refer to Figure 2 for a photograph of the assembled rack.

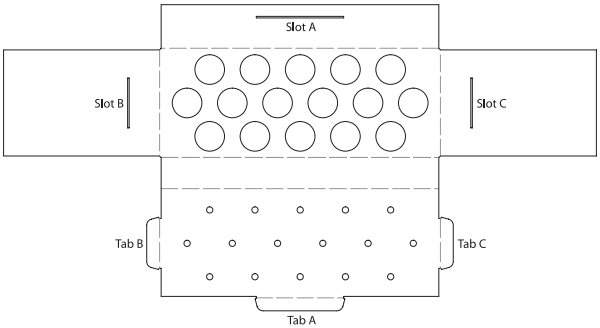

Figure 1: Assembly of Column Rack

Figure 2: Assembled Column Rack

5. Detailed Protocol for High Copy Plasmids (100 ml – 200 ml Bacterial Culture)

Before beginning, verify that RNase A (red cap) has been added to the Cell Resuspension Buffer (yellow cap label) and that no precipitate can be seen in the Lysis Buffer (blue cap label). See Sections 4.3 and 4.4.

1. Place PhoenIX™ Maxi column in the assembled Disposable Column Rack. Place a waste container underneath that will hold > 60 ml.

2. Add 30 ml of Equilibration Buffer (gray cap label) to the surface of the column and allow the liquid to drain by gravity flow.

Note: It will take 15-20 minutes for the column to drain completely. During this process, proceed to Step 3.

3. Pellet 100-200 ml of a 1 - 5 x 10^9 cells/ml bacterial culture (see section 4.3) by centrifugation at 6,000 x g for 15 minutes at room temperature.

4. Remove all traces of liquid medium from the bacterial cell pellet with a pipette.

Note: If traces of culture medium remain with the cells, the ratio of salts and pH values will not be optimal in subsequent steps.

5. Add 10 ml of RNase A-containing Cell Resuspension Buffer (yellow cap label) to the cell pellet and vortex until completely resuspended.

6. Transfer resuspended cells to a centrifuge tube that can hold > 30 ml of liquid and can withstand 12,000 x g.

7. Add 10 ml of Lysis Buffer (blue cap label) and securely cap the tube. Mix thoroughly by inverting until the lysate appears to be homogeneous (5-6 inversions). DO NOT VORTEX.

8. Incubate 5 minutes at room temperature.

Note: Do not incubate for longer than 5 minutes or plasmid DNA might become irreversibly denatured.

9. Add 10 ml of Neutralization Buffer (green cap label). Securely cap the tube and mix immediately by multiple inversions until a homogeneous suspension containing no viscous matter is obtained. DO NOT VORTEX.

Note: If preparing several samples at once, thoroughly mix each sample immediately after the addition of the Neutralization Buffer before adding the buffer to the next tube.

10. Centrifuge the thoroughly mixed sample at ≥ 12,000 x g for 10 minutes at room temperature.

Note: If a room temperature centrifuge is not available and sample is centrifuged at 4°C, the supernatant must be allowed to warm to room temperature (18 – 25°C) prior to loading on the PhoenIX™ Maxi Column.

11. Verify that the Equilibration Buffer has been collected in the waste container beneath the PhoenIX™ Maxi Column. Discard the flow-through and replace the container.

12. Use a pipette to remove the cleared lysate supernatant from the centrifuged sample and add to the top of the equilibrated column. Allow the lysate to drain by gravity flow (10-15 minutes). Discard the flow-through and replace the empty container.

Note: Do not pour lysate directly onto the column. Use a pipette to ensure that precipitate particles do not enter the column and cause clogging.

13. Add 60 ml of Column Wash Buffer (orange cap label) to the top of the column and allow the liquid to drain by gravity flow (20-25 minutes).

14. Discard the flow-through. Replace the waste collection container with a new centrifuge tube that can hold > 30 ml of liquid and can withstand 12,000 x g.

15. Add 15 ml of Elution Buffer (pink cap label) to the top of the column. Allow the eluate to drain by gravity flow (5-10 minutes) into the centrifuge tube.

16. Add 10.5 ml of Isopropanol to the eluted plasmid DNA in the centrifuge tube. Mix and centrifuge at 12,000 x g for 30 minutes at 4°C.

17. Pour out the supernatant taking care not to disturb the DNA pellet.

18. Add 5 ml of 70% ethanol and wash the pellet. Centrifuge at 12,000 x g for 5 minutes at 4°C.

19. Completely remove ALL of the supernatant from the pellet with a pipette.

20. Air-dry the pellet for 10 minutes.

Note: Drying with a vacuum chamber is not recommended because over-dried DNA may be difficult to completely resuspend.

21. Dissolve the plasmid DNA in 500 µl of water or TE Buffer. DNA is immediately ready for downstream applications and may be moved to a smaller tube if desired.

6. Detailed Protocol for Low Copy Plasmids (201 ml – 500 ml Bacterial Culture)

Before beginning, verify that RNase A (red cap) has been added to the Cell Resuspension Buffer (yellow cap label) and that no precipitate can be seen in the Lysis Buffer (blue cap label). See Sections 4.3 and 4.4.

1. Place PhoenIX™ Maxi column in the assembled Disposable Column Rack. Place a waste container underneath that will hold > 60 ml.

2. Add 30 ml of Equilibration Buffer (gray cap label) to the surface of the column and allow the liquid to drain by gravity flow.

Note: It will take 15-20 minutes for the column to drain completely. During this process, proceed to Step 3.

3. Pellet 201-500 ml of a 1 - 5 x 10^9 cells/ml bacterial culture (see section 4.3) by centrifugation at 6,000 x g for 15 minutes at room temperature.

4. Remove all traces of liquid medium from the bacterial cell pellet with a pipette.

Note: If traces of culture medium remain with the cells, the ratio of salts and pH values will not be optimal in subsequent steps.

5. Add 20 ml of RNase A-containing Cell Resuspension Buffer (yellow cap label) to the cell pellet and vortex until completely resuspended.

6. Transfer resuspended cells to a centrifuge tube that can hold > 60 ml of liquid and can withstand 12,000 x g.

7. Add 20 ml of Lysis Buffer (blue cap label) and securely cap the tube. Mix thoroughly by inverting until the lysate appears to be homogeneous (5-6 inversions). DO NOT VORTEX.

8. Incubate 5 minutes at room temperature.

Note: Do not incubate for longer than 5 minutes or plasmid DNA might become irreversibly denatured.

9. Add 20 ml of Neutralization Buffer (green cap label). Securely cap the tube and mix immediately by multiple inversions until a homogeneous suspension containing no viscous matter is obtained. DO NOT VORTEX.

Note: If preparing several samples at once, thoroughly mix each sample immediately after the addition of the Neutralization Buffer before adding the buffer to the next tube.

10. Centrifuge the thoroughly mixed sample at ≥ 12,000 x g for 10 minutes at room temperature.

Note: If a room temperature centrifuge is not available and sample is centrifuged at 4°C, the supernatant must be allowed to warm to room temperature (18 – 25°C) prior to loading on the PhoenIX™ Maxi Column.

11. Verify that the Equilibration Buffer has been collected in the waste container beneath the PhoenIX™ Maxi Column. Discard the flow-through and replace the container.

12. Use a pipette to remove the cleared lysate supernatant from the centrifuged sample and add to the top of the equilibrated column. Allow the lysate to drain by gravity flow (15-20 minutes). Discard the flow-through and replace the empty container.

Note: Do not pour lysate directly onto the column. Use a pipette to ensure that precipitate particles do not enter the column and cause clogging.

13. Add 60 ml of Column Wash Buffer (orange cap label) to the top of the column and allow the liquid to drain by gravity flow (20-25 minutes).

14. Discard the flow-through. Replace the waste collection container with a new centrifuge tube that can hold > 50 ml of liquid and can withstand 12,000 x g.

15. Add 15 ml of Elution Buffer (pink cap label) to the top of the column. Allow the eluate to drain by gravity flow (5-10 minutes) into the centrifuge tube.

16. Add 10.5 ml of Isopropanol to the eluted plasmid DNA in the centrifuge tube. Mix and centrifuge at 12,000 x g for 30 minutes at 4°C.

17. Pour out the supernatant taking care not to disturb the DNA pellet.

18. Add 5 ml of 70% ethanol and wash the pellet. Centrifuge at 12,000 x g for 5 minutes at 4°C.

19. Completely remove ALL of the supernatant from the pellet with a pipette.

20. Air-dry the pellet for 10 minutes.

Note: Drying with a vacuum chamber is not recommended because over-dried DNA may be difficult to completely resuspend.

21. Dissolve the plasmid DNA in 200 µl of water or TE Buffer. DNA is immediately ready for downstream applications and may be moved to a smaller tube if desired.

7. Troubleshooting

7.1 Low yields of plasmid DNA

7.1.1 Temperature was too low

Temperature plays an important role in the isolation of optimal amounts of plasmid DNA. All solutions should be kept no cooler than room temperature (18 - 25°C). If cleared lysate was centrifuged at 4°C, the supernatant must be allowed to warm prior to adding to the column. Wash and elution buffers must also be used at room temperature.

7.1.2 Culture medium was not completely removed

Plasmid DNA will not bind optimally to the PhoenIX™ Maxi Column unless it is at the correct salt concentration and pH. Excess culture media that is resuspended with the cells in the Cell Resuspension Buffer will have a significant negative impact on these critical parameters. Ensure all culture media is removed with a pipette prior to resuspending cells in step 5 of the protocol.

7.1.3 Alkaline lysis reagents were not added precisely

Plasmid DNA will not bind optimally to the PhoenIX™ Maxi Column unless it is at the correct salt concentration and pH. Measure volumes of alkaline lysis reagents precisely to ensure best results.

7.1.4 DNA pellet was over-dried

Once a DNA pellet is over-dried, it can be difficult if not impossible to completely resuspend. Air-dry the pellet as directed in the protocol and do not use a vacuum pump system.

7.1.5 Variability in plasmid copy number

The total quantity of plasmid DNA in a particular *E. coli* host cell is influenced by many variables. The range of plasmid DNA per ml culture can vary from 0.2 µg/ml ("low copy") to > 5.0 µg/ml ("high copy"). The size and sequence of specific DNA inserts will often influence the copy number of a particular plasmid; in some cases the copy number of a normally "high copy" plasmid will be reduced with a different insert.

Qbiogene offers two protocols in this instruction manual, one for "high copy" plasmids and one for "low copy" plasmids. If a "high copy" plasmid gives a DNA yield that is lower than expected, it may help to use a larger culture volume and follow the "low copy" protocol to increase yield.

7.1.6 Diagnosis protocol for low or no yield

If the yield of an expected "high copy" plasmid still does not improve after the suggestions above are followed, perform the PhoenIX™ Maxiprep Diagnosis Protocol in Appendix II to determine if the problem lies with the supplied reagents or the procedure itself.

7.2 Slow column flow

If the flow of liquid through the PhoenIX™ Maxi Column slows or stops, it may be due to the clogging of the column with particulate matter carried over from the cleared lysate in step 12. Do not pour the cleared lysate onto the column right from the centrifuge tube. Carefully separate the cleared lysate from the particulate matter with a pipet and load the column as directed in the protocol.

7.3 Chromosomal DNA contamination

Chromosomal bacterial DNA is removed from the preparation by precipitation after the addition of the Neutralization Buffer and by subsequent centrifugation. This is only successful if shearing of the chromosomal DNA after cell lysis is kept to a minimum. Shearing of the chromosomal DNA occurs when the sample is vortexed after the addition of Lysis Buffer and/or Neutralization Buffer. Mix only by inversion after the addition of these solutions; do not vortex.

7.4 Multiple plasmid forms seen on agarose gel

A DNA band that runs slightly faster than the supercoiled plasmid DNA on a gel most likely represents irreversibly denatured plasmid DNA. Plasmid DNA will become irreversibly denatured if alkaline cell lysis (step 7) continues longer than the recommended 5 minutes.

7.5 RNA contamination

7.5.1 Preparation was at the incorrect salt concentration, pH or temperature

Due to the nature of the PhoenIX™ ion exchange resin, the separation of DNA and RNA is strongly dependent on the salt concentration, pH and temperature during binding, washing and elution. Follow the protocol exactly as directed and see sections 7.1.1 – 7.1 3 under “Low yields of plasmid DNA”.

7.5.2 Sample was left on the column too long

Once the cleared bacterial lysate is added to the column, proceed with subsequent steps with no interruptions. Long pauses between steps may cause contamination of the purified plasmid DNA with small RNA species.

7.5.3 RNase A digestion was insufficient

Ensure the appropriate amount of RNase A was added to the Cell Resuspension Buffer prior to beginning the protocol (see section 4.3). If the Cell Resuspension Buffer was not stored at 4°C, or if it has been stored at 4°C for more than 6 months, new RNase A should be added prior to purifying more plasmid DNA.

Ensure the correct volume of prepared Cell Resuspension Buffer was added in step 5 of the protocol.

7.5.4 Host strain may be naturally rich in RNA

Some host strains are extremely rich in RNA. Therefore, it is possible that a slight contamination of the plasmid DNA with residual RNA might occur, even in the presence of RNase. Increasing the volume of Neutralization Buffer in step 8 of the protocol by 10% can minimize contaminating RNA without significantly decreasing plasmid DNA yield.

8. Recommended Reference Format for Publications

"Plasmid DNA was purified using the PhoenIX™ Maxiprep Kit (Qbiogene, Inc., CA)".

9. Related Products

9.1 Plasmid Purification Kits

Purification Scale	Cat #	Kit Name	Size
Gigaprep	2075-400	PhoenIX™ Gigaprep Kit	5 preps
Midiprep	2075-200	PhoenIX™ Midiprep Kit	25 preps
Miniprep	2067-200	RapidPURE™ Plasmid Mini Kit	60 preps
	2067-400	RapidPURE™ Plasmid Mini Kit	120 preps
	2067-600	RapidPURE™ Plasmid Mini Kit	300 preps
	2067-200	RapidPURE™ Plasmid Mini 96 Kit	96 preps
	2067-400	RapidPURE™ Plasmid Mini 96 Kit	4 x 96 preps
	2069-400	Yeast RPM® Kit	100 preps
	2070-200	RPM® Kit	60 preps
	2070-400	RPM® Kit	120 preps
	2070-500	RPM® Kit	300 preps
	2070-600	RPM® Kit	600 preps
	2000-200	MiniPrep Express™ Matrix	1,250 preps
	2002-200	96well Prep Express	4 x 96 preps

9.2 Molecular Biology Certified™ Growth Media

BIO 101® Systems is well known for providing an excellent selection of high-quality growth media in a variety of formulations. We specialize in formulations for yeast and bacterial genetics, and offer more than a thousand recipes and variations. Each product is subjected to extensive quantitative testing, and is Molecular Biology Certified™ through qualitative, molecular biology based tests such as cell density and plasmid yield. Choose from a wide variety of convenient packaging formats: Pre-mixed powders are available in capsule form, single-use pouches, or in bulk sizes. Liquid media, pre-poured plates, and custom packaging options are also available. If you prefer to make your own media, BIO 101® Systems can supply you with raw materials such as tryptones and peptones, yeast extract, a wide variety of sugars and salts, antibiotics, and other media additives.

10. Product Use Limitation & Warranty

Unless otherwise indicated, this product is for research use only. Purchase of Qbiogene, Inc. products does not grant rights to reproduce, modify, or repackage the products or any derivative thereof to third parties. Qbiogene, Inc. makes no warranty of any kind, expressed or implied, including merchantability or fitness for any particular purpose, except that the products sold will meet our specifications at the time of delivery. Buyer's exclusive remedy and the sole liability of Qbiogene, Inc. hereunder shall be limited to, at our discretion, no replacement or compensation, product credits, refund of the purchase price of, or the replacement of materials that do not meet our specification. By acceptance of the product, Buyer indemnifies and holds Qbiogene, Inc. harmless against, and assumes all liability for, the consequence of its use or misuse by the Buyer, its employees or others, including, but not limited to, the cost of handling. Said refund or replacement is conditioned on Buyer notifying Qbiogene, Inc. within thirty (30) days of receipt of product. Failure of Buyer to give said notice within thirty (30) days shall constitute a waiver by the Buyer of all claims hereunder with respect to said material(s).

11. Trademarks and Patents

BIO 101® Systems and RPM® are registered trademarks of Qbiogene. MiniPrep Express™, Molecular Biology Certified™, PhoenIX™ and RapidPURE™ are trademarks of Qbiogene.

PhoenIX™ plasmid purification materials are covered under U.S. Patent # 5, 843, 312 and foreign equivalents

Appendix I: PhoenIX™ Maxiprep Quick Reference Protocol

Protocol Step	High Copy Midiprep	Low Copy Midiprep
Add Equilibration Buffer to Column Resuspend Pellet in Cell Resuspension	30 ml	
Buffer (with RNase A)	10 ml	20 ml
Add Lysis Buffer	10 ml	20 ml
Add Neutralization Buffer	10 ml	20 ml
Centrifuge	12,000 x g for 10 minutes	
Apply Lysate to Column	~ 30 ml	~ 60 ml
Add Column Wash Buffer	60 ml	
Add Elution Buffer	15 ml	
Add Isopropanol	10.5 ml	
Centrifuge	12,000 x g for 30 minutes at 4°C	
Wash with 70% EtOH	5 ml	
Centrifuge	12,000 x g for 5 minutes at 4°C	
Air-dry pellet	10 minutes at room temp	
Resuspend DNA	500 µl	200 µl

Appendix II: PhoenIX™ Maxiprep Diagnosis Protocol

Starting Notes

If a high copy plasmid that is expected to yield a high amount of plasmid DNA still does not produce enough DNA after the suggestions in section 7.1 are followed, perform the PhoenIX™ Maxiprep Diagnosis Protocol to determine if the problem lies with the supplied reagents or the procedure itself.

Before beginning, verify that RNase A (red cap) has been added to the Cell Resuspension Buffer (yellow cap label) and that no precipitate can be seen in the Lysis Buffer (blue cap label). See Sections 4.3 and 4.4.

Diagnosis Protocol

1. Place PhoenIX™ Maxi column in the assembled Disposable Column Rack. Place a waste container underneath that will hold > 60 ml.

2. Add 30 ml of Equilibration Buffer (gray cap label) to the surface of the column and allow the liquid to drain by gravity flow.

Note: It will take 15-20 minutes for the column to drain completely. During this process, proceed to Step 3.

3. Pellet 100-200 ml of a 1 - 5 x 10^9 cells/ml bacterial culture (see section 4.3) by centrifugation at 6,000 x g for 15 minutes at room temperature.

4. Remove all traces of liquid medium from the bacterial cell pellet with a pipette.

Note: If traces of culture medium remain with the cells, the ratio of salts and pH values will not be optimal in subsequent steps.

5. Add 10 ml of RNase A-containing Cell Resuspension Buffer (yellow cap label) to the cell pellet and vortex until completely resuspended.

6. Transfer resuspended cells to a centrifuge tube that can hold > 30 ml of liquid and can withstand 12,000 x g.

7. Add 10 ml of Lysis Buffer (blue cap label) and securely cap the tube. Mix thoroughly by inverting until the lysate appears to be homogeneous (5-6 inversions). DO NOT VORTEX.

8. Incubate 5 minutes at room temperature.

Note: Do not incubate for longer than 5 minutes or plasmid DNA might become irreversibly denatured.

9. Add 10 ml of Neutralization Buffer (green cap label). Securely cap the tube and mix immediately by multiple inversions until a homogeneous suspension containing no viscous matter is obtained. DO NOT VORTEX.

Note: If preparing several samples at once, thoroughly mix each sample immediately after the addition of the Neutralization Buffer before adding the buffer to the next tube.

10. Centrifuge the thoroughly mixed sample at ≥ 12,000 x g for 10 minutes at room temperature.

Note: If a room temperature centrifuge is not available and sample is centrifuged at 4°C, the supernatant must be allowed to warm to room temperature (18 – 25°C) prior to loading on the PhoenIX™ Maxi Column.

11. Verify that the Equilibration Buffer has been collected in the waste container beneath the PhoenIX™ Maxi Column. Discard the flow-through and replace the container.

12. Remove 300 µl of cleared lysate from step 10 and transfer it to a separate 1.5 ml microcentrifuge tube. THIS IS DIAGNOSIS SAMPLE #1.

13. Use a pipette to remove the remainder of the cleared lysate supernatant from the centrifuged sample and add to the top of the equilibrated column. Allow the lysate to drain by gravity flow (10-15 minutes).

Note: Do not pour lysate directly onto the column. Use a pipette to ensure that precipitate particles do not enter the column and cause clogging.

14. Mix the flow-through of the column well and remove 300 µl to a separate 1.5 ml microcentrifuge tube. THIS IS DIAGNOSIS SAMPLE #2. Discard the remainder of the flow-through and replace the collection container.

15. Add 30 ml of Column Wash Buffer (orange cap label) to the top of the column and allow the liquid to drain by gravity flow. Mix the flow-through of the column well and remove 900 µl to a separate 1.5 ml microcentrifuge tube. THIS IS DIAGNOSIS SAMPLE #3. Discard the remaining flow-through and replace the empty collection container.

Note: If any drops of liquid from the cleared lysate (added in step 12) remain on the plastic walls of the column, wash them down into the column with the 30 ml of Column Wash Buffer.

16. Repeat the wash in step 15 with a second application of 30 ml of Column Wash Buffer (orange cap label). Mix the flow-through of the column well and remove 900 µl to a separate 1.5 ml microcentrifuge tube. THIS IS DIAGNOSIS SAMPLE #4.

Note: Do not add the second application of Column Wash Buffer until the first wash has run completely through the column.

17. Discard the remaining flow-through from the second wash and replace the collection container with a new centrifuge tube that can hold > 30 ml of liquid and can withstand 12,000 x g.

18. Add 15 ml of Elution Buffer (pink cap label) to the top of the column. Allow the eluate to drain by gravity flow (5-10 minutes) into the centrifuge tube.

19. Mix the eluted solution well and remove 900 µl to a separate 1.5 ml microcentrifuge tube. THIS IS DIAGNOSIS SAMPLE #5.

20. If completion of the protocol is desired, add 10.5 ml of Isopropanol to the remainder of the eluted solution in the centrifuge tube. Mix and centrifuge at 12,000 x g for 30 minutes at 4°C. Continue with steps 17-21 of the main protocol in section 5.

Precipitation of Diagnosis Samples

Diagnosis samples #1-5 must be precipitated with 0.7 volumes of isopropanol. After centrifugation in a chilled microcentrifuge for 30 min at ≥ 14,000 x g, allow all liquid to drain from the pellets by inverting the open tubes for at least 5 min on a sheet of absorbent paper towel. Washing the pellets with 70% ethanol is not necessary. Dry the nucleic acids further under vacuum for 5 - 10 minutes. Do not over-dry the pellets. Dissolve the nucleic acids in 30 - 50 µl water or TE buffer for 10 minutes at 37°C.

Testing of Diagnosis Samples #1 – 5

Remove 50% of the volume from Diagnosis Sample #5 (from the elutate) and save for spectrophotometric analysis. Add electrophoresis loading dye to the remainder of Sample #5, and to all of samples #1-4, and run on a 0.8% agarose gel.

Expected results for Diagnosis Samples #1 – 5

Significant amounts of DNA can normally be expected only in Diagnosis Samples #1 (original cleared lysate) and #5 (eluate).

Diagnosis Sample #1 (from the cleared lysate) represents the amount of DNA present in 1 ml of the bacterial culture. It allows an estimation of the overall plasmid content and yield of the culture. If yield is lower than expected, optimization of the culture conditions (medium, temperature, time, etc.) may be required.

Diagnosis Sample #2 (from the lysate flow-through) represents the amount of DNA that did not bind to the PhoenIX™ Maxi Column. Only degraded RNA should be visible: No (or only a faint) DNA band should be seen on the gel. If you get a DNA band nearly as intense as in Diagnosis Sample #1, the cleared lysate was likely not at the right salt concentration or pH in order to allow optimal DNA binding. Follow the guidelines in the Troubleshooting section of the instruction manual. If necessary, the volume of Neutralization Buffer can be reduced by 10%.

Diagnosis Sample #3 (from the first column wash) should only contain degraded RNA and some or no traces of plasmid DNA. Diagnosis Sample #4 (from the second column wash) should not contain more than traces of nucleic acid. If you encounter significant amounts of DNA in the wash fractions, the salt content of the Column Wash Buffer may be too high. Ensure the correct bottle was used, or prepare new wash buffer (Contact Qbiogene's Technical Support Department).

Diagnosis Sample #5 (from the eluate) represents the final amount of plasmid DNA recovered. The plasmid DNA in the eluate should be free of genomic DNA, RNA and be mostly supercoiled. If you get no DNA in the eluate and little to no DNA in the lanes 2, 3 and 4, ensure the correct bottle was used or prepare new elution solution (Contact Qbiogene's Technical Support Department).

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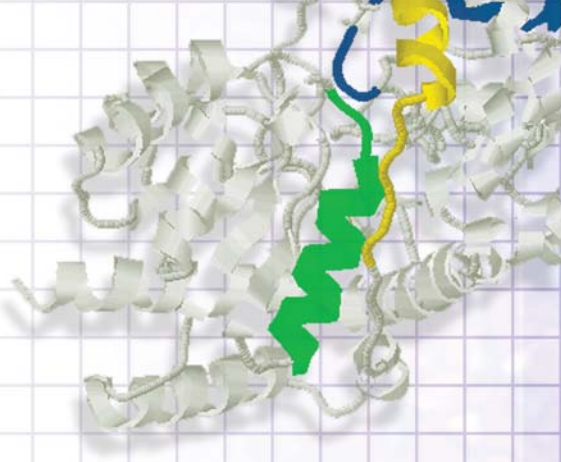

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